



CUSTOMER NO. 23932

ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08a/b (06-03)

| | | | | | |
|---|---|----|---|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | Complete if Known | |
| | | | | Application Number | 10/726264-Conf. #3369 |
| | | | | Filing Date | December 2, 2003 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Alessio M. D'arrigo Guiseppe |
| | | | | Art Unit | 2878 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 61181-00007USPX |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| SA | A1** | US-6,376,291 | 04-23-2002 | Gabriele Barlocchi | |
| | A2** | US-5,429,734 | 07-04-1995 | STEPHANIE A. GAJAR | |
| | A3** | US-4,993,143 | 02-19-1991 | DIANE W. SIDNER | |
| SA | A4** | US-4,685,198 | 08-11-1987 | KENJI KAWAKITA | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| SA | B1 | EP-EP 1 043 770 | 10-11-2000 | STMicroelectronics S.r.l. | | |
| | B2 | EP-1 073 112 | 01-31-2001 | STMicroelectronics S.r.l. | | |
| | B3 | EP-1 067 599 | 01-10-2001 | STMicroelectronics S.r.l. | | |
| SA | B4 | WO-WO 01/61750 | 08-23-2001 | Applied Materials, Inc. | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
| SA | C1 | European Search Report, 02425746.1, dated July 15, 2003. | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------|---------|
| Examiner Signature | Shamim Ahmed | Date Considered | 8/30/05 |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------|---------|

DALLAS2 1043992v1 61181-00007USPX